

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/01581

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61K7/06 A61K7/09

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95 01384 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 12 January 1995 (1995-01-12) page 3, line 17 -page 6, line 10 page 11, line 17 -page 16, line 6 claims 1-18 ---	1-19
X	US 5 271 930 A (ANDREWS ANN M ET AL) 21 December 1993 (1993-12-21) column 3, line 22 -column 4, line 39 examples 1-17 claims 1-14 ---	1-3, 10-19
X	US 5 919 830 A (GOPALKRISHNAN SRIDHAR ET AL) 6 July 1999 (1999-07-06) column 3, line 35 -column 4, line 35 column 5, line 26 -column 6, line 23 --- -/-	1-3, 10-19

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

C earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

PP document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principles or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

S document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 May 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/06/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/01581

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 00 71606 A (UNILEVER PLC ;LEVER HINDUSTAN LTD (IN); UNILEVER NV (NL)) 30 November 2000 (2000-11-30) page 4, line 12 - line 24 page 16, line 17 -page 17, line 17 page 18, line 6 - line 30 examples 1-8 -----	1-19

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/01581

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9501384	A	12-01-1995	AT	193025 T		15-06-2000
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			TR	200103358 T2		22-07-2002
			US	2002098214 A1		25-07-2002
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (In.CI.7)
X	WO 95 01384 A (PROCTER & GAMBLE) 12 January 1995 (1995-01-12) * page 3, line 17 - page 6, line 10 * * page 11, line 17 - page 16, line 6 * * claims 1-18 *	1-19	A61K7/06 A61K7/09 A61K8/90
X	US 5 271 930 A (ANDREWS ANN M ET AL) 21 December 1993 (1993-12-21) * column 3, line 22 - column 4, line 39 * * examples 1-17 * * claims 1-14 *	1-3, 10-19	
X	US 5 919 830 A (GOPALKRISHNAN SRIDHAR ET AL) 6 July 1999 (1999-07-06) * column 3, line 35 - column 4, line 35 * * column 5, line 26 - column 6, line 23 *	1-3, 10-19	
A	WO 00 71606 A (UNILEVER PLC ; LEVER HINDUSTAN LTD (IN); UNILEVER NV (NL)) 30 November 2000 (2000-11-30) * page 4, line 12 - line 24 * * page 16, line 17 - page 17, line 17 * * page 18, line 6 - line 30 * * examples 1-8 *	1-19	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (In.CI.7) A61K A61Q
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 15 November 2002	Examiner Menidjel, R
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 25 1712

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

15-11-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9501384	A	12-01-1995	AT 193025 T	15-06-2000
			AT 183528 T	15-09-1999
			AU 699228 B2	26-11-1998
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			AU 697932 B2	22-10-1998
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EP 02 25 1712

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0071606 A	CN	1351626 T	29-05-2002
	CZ	20014208 A3	17-04-2002
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	EP	1189975 A1	27-03-2002
	HU	0201460 A2	28-08-2002
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	US	2002098214 A1	25-07-2002

EPO FORM P/02

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/002852

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A61K7/06 A61K7/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K C08F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 281 395 A (OREAL) 5 February 2003 (2003-02-05) page 2, paragraph 1 page 2, paragraph 8 - page 3, paragraph 15 page 4, paragraph 26 - page 7, paragraph 33 page 9, paragraph 36 - paragraph 37	1,2,5-18
X	WO 94/02112 A (NAT STARCH CHEM INVEST) 3 February 1994 (1994-02-03) page 1, line 5 - line 8 page 2, line 15 - page 3, line 15 page 4, line 8 - page 5, line 7 claims 1-19	1,2,5-18

-/-



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another claim or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step unless the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

07/07/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/002852

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 721 313 A (YEUNG DOMINIC WAI-KWING ET AL) 24 February 1998 (1998-02-24) column 1, line 30 - line 57 column 2, line 27 - line 52	1,2,5-9, 12,14,15
A	WO 01/07496 A (JARVIS ADAM PETER ;BP CHEM INT LTD (GB); HADDLETON DAVID MARK (GB)) 1 February 2001 (2001-02-01) cited in the application page 2, line 3 - line 29 page 6, line 25 - page 8, line 14 claims 1-15	1-18

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/002852

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1281395	A	05-02-2003	FR 2827513 A1	24-01-2003
			CN 1415280 A	07-05-2003
			EP 1281395 A1	05-02-2003
			JP 2003055137 A	26-02-2003
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			WO 0107496 A2	01-02-2001

SET

EP, Gen, DOCS W.

D SET.



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Patentamt

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abteilung

European
Patent Office

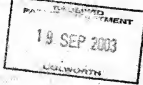
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Département à
La Haye
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Now do the update
Datum/Date 18.09.03 *Search report to Gen. 8.5.1*

Zeichen/Pat./Bst. J3713(c)RJG	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Brevet n°. 03252063.7-1219-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire UNILEVER PLC	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract ☐ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: **NONE**

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	EP 1 281 395 A (OREAL) 5 February 2003 (2003-02-05) * page 2, paragraph 1 * * page 2, paragraph 8 - page 3, paragraph 15 * * page 4, paragraph 26 - page 7, paragraph 33 * * page 9, paragraph 36 - paragraph 37 *	1,2,5-18	A61K7/06 A61K7/11
X	WO 94 02112 A (NAT STARCH CHEM INVEST) 3 February 1994 (1994-02-03) * page 1, line 5 - line 8 * * page 2, line 15 - page 3, line 15 * * page 4, line 8 - page 5, line 7 * * claims 1-19 *	1,2,5-18	
X	US 5 721 313 A (YEUNG DOMINIC WAI-KWING ET AL) 24 February 1998 (1998-02-24) * column 1, line 30 - line 57 * * column 2, line 27 - line 52 *	1,2,5-9, 12,14,15	
D,A	WO 01 07496 A (JARVIS ADAM PETER ;BP CHEM INT LTD (GB); HADDLETON DAVID MARK (GB)) 1 February 2001 (2001-02-01) * page 2, line 3 - line 29 * * page 6, line 25 - page 8, line 14 * * claims 1-15 *	1-18	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) A61K C08F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 8 September 2003	Examiner Menidjel, R
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 03 25 2063

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on the European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

08-09-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US 5721313	A	24-02-1998	NONE	
WO 0107496	A	01-02-2001	AU 5092800 A	13-02-2001
			WO 0107496 A2	01-02-2001

EP 03 25 2063

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82



This application is covered by the extended European search report pilot project at present running within the European Patent Office, applied to all European patent applications filed as first filing and searched on or after 01.07.03. Under this project the EPO issues together with the search report an opinion on whether the application and the invention to which it relates meet the requirements of the EPC. This non-binding opinion is issued free of charge as a service. This opinion may be used as the basis for an informed decision as to whether it is desired to pursue the application further or not.

For further details of this pilot project, the applicant's attention is directed to the Official Journal edition 5/2003. If any further immediate questions or comments arise the EPO Customer Services: +31-70-340 4500 or +49-89-2399 2828 can be contacted.

The attached opinion reveals that the application or the invention to which it relates appear not to meet the requirements of the Convention (see comments on enclosed Form 2906).

If the applicant wishes to continue with this application the examination fee must be paid. Where appropriate amendments can be filed to address the objections raised in the opinion, thus shortening the overall procedure. If no amendments are filed, the opinion will be re-issued as the first official communication under Article 96(2) and Rule 51(2) EPC.

If the examination fee has already been paid and the right to the communication under Article 96(1) EPC has been waived for this application, the first official communication under Article 96(2) and Rule 51(2) EPC will be issued promptly.



The examination is being carried out on the following application documents:

Text for the Contracting States:

AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IT LU MC NL PT SE SI SK TR LI RO

Description, pages:

1-36 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-18 as originally filed

- The following document (D1,D2,D3) are referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: EP-A-1 281 395 (OREAL) 5 February 2003 (2003-02-05)

D2: WO 94 02112 A (NAT STARCH CHEM INVEST) 3 February 1994 (1994-02-03)

D3: US-A-5 721 313 (YEUNG DOMINIC WAI-KWING ET AL) 24 February 1998 (1998-02-24)

I - Clarity (Article 84 EPC)

a - Claim 1 is not supported by the description as required by Article 84 EPC, as its scope is broader than justified by the description. The reasons therefore are the following: present claim 1 relates to an extremely large number of possible products defined as "personal care composition". Support within the meaning of Article 84 EPC and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 83 EPC is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the products claimed, i.e. hair styling compositions. Hence, claim 1 is not supported by the description as required by Article 84 EPC.

- As far as the claimed subject-matter can be understood, the following is to be noted concerning novelty and inventive step:

II - Novelty (Article 54(1),(2) EPC)

- The subject-matter of present claims 1,2,5-18 is not new for the following reasons (Article



54(1),(2) EPC):

- Document D1 refers to a hair styling composition comprising an ABA block copolymer wherein the A group are built up from an ethylenically unsaturated polymerisable monomer and the B group is derived from an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylate and, a cosmetically acceptable diluent or carrier (Cf. D1, page 2, paragraph 1; page 2, paragraph 8-page 3, paragraph 15; page 4, paragraph 26-page 33; page 9, paragraph 36-paragraph 37).

The subject-matter described in document D1 takes away novelty of present claims 1,2,5-18.

- Document D2 describes an emulsion polymer for use in hair styling composition comprising an ABA block copolymer wherein the A group are built up from an ethylenically unsaturated polymerisable monomer and the B group is derived from an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylate and, a cosmetically acceptable diluent or carrier (Cf. D2, page 1, lines 5-8; page 2, line 15-page 3, line 15; page 4, line 8-page 5, line 7; claims 1-19).

The subject-matter described in document D2 takes away novelty of present claims 1,2,5-18.

- Document D3 refers a crosslinked polymer composition for use in cosmetic comprising an ABA block copolymer wherein the A group are built up from an ethylenically unsaturated polymerisable monomer and the B group is derived from an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylate and, a cosmetically acceptable diluent or carrier (Cf. D3, column 1, lines 30-57; column 2, lines 27-52).

The subject-matter described in document D3 takes away novelty of present claims 1,2,5-9,12,14,15.

III - Inventive step (Article 56 EPC)

- Although apparently novel, the remaining subject-matter which is the subject-matter of present claims 3,4 is not considered inventive for the following reasons (Article 56 EPC):

Document D1, which is considered as the closest prior art, describes a hair styling composition comprising an ABA block copolymer wherein the A group are built up from an ethylenically unsaturated polymerisable monomer and the B group is derived from an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylate and, a cosmetically acceptable diluent or carrier (Cf. D1, page 2, paragraph 1; page 2, paragraph 8-page 3, paragraph 15; page 4, paragraph



26-page 33; page 9, paragraph 36-paragraph 37).

- The problem to be solved by the present application appears to obtain hair care compositions containing styling polymers that can perform under conditions of high humidity (see application on page 1, lines 18-23).

- The solution proposed in the present application is to provide a composition comprising a polymer comprising an ABA block copolymer, wherein the A group are built up from an ethylenically unsaturated polymerisable monomer and the B group is derived from an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylate and, a cosmetically acceptable diluent or carrier (see application, on page 3, lines 12-18 and claim 1).

- The subject-matter of present claims 4,5 is a matter of normal design procedure and would therefore be an obvious design possibility for the skilled person in order to solve the problem posed. Therefore, no inventive step is present in the subject-matter of present claims 4,5 (Article 56 EPC).

The applicant is invited to file a set of amended claims taking into account the comments made above.

The applicant is requested to effect the amendments by filing replacement pages for only those pages which have been amended. Unnecessary recasting of the description should be avoided. An amended abstract is not required. The applicant should also take account of the requirements of Rule 36(1) EPC. If handwritten amendments are submitted, they should be clearly legible for the printer. *According to the decision of the President of the EPO under Rule 35(2) EPC (OJ EPO 12/2001, 563) one set of the amended documents of the European patent application shall be provided.*

When filing amended claims the applicant should at the same time bring the description into conformity with the amended claims. Care should be taken during revision, especially of the introductory portion and any statements of problem or advantage, not to add subject-matter which extends beyond the content of the application as originally filed (Article 123(2) EPC).